FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 DECEMBER 1985

Syrian-Iraqi Relations

The Soviet Union will "resume its mediation efforts" between Syria and Iraq, according to "informed Arab sources" cited by the Kuwaiti paper *AL-WATAN*. The sources asserted that Soviet official Karen Brutents will "present the efforts of his country" when he visits Damascus 30 December.

Lebanon

The tripartite agreement is now in its "final form" and is expected to be signed "within a few days," Radio Monte Carlo reported. Meeting in Damascus 25 December with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Tripartite Committee overcame the "last obstacle," according to "committee sources," with a compromise plan that calls for the chamber of deputies to define the transitional period.

Israel

Although he has yet to respond to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' request for a written clarification of Tabah arbitration issues, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak sent a verbal message to Peres that was described by "well-informed sources" as being "formulated in a positive way," IDF radio revealed. In another development, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reiterated Israel's policy of not dealing with the abductors of Jews in other countries, Jerusalem radio reported. Israel will "seek to protect" Jews abroad, the minister said, but will not allow terrorists "to extort anything" by turning them into hostages.

PLO Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee, meeting in Tunis 24 December, decided to call for an immediate Arab summit to consider a "pan-Arab position" on the Middle East peace process, the PLO representative in Cairo said in remarks cited by MENA.

Libya

A "responsible source" informed JANA that the Committee for Clearing the Arab Atmosphere has "failed," adding that the committee's request that Libya be the first "to halt the propaganda campaigns" was refused.

In another development, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi asked Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki to visit the Mali and Burkina Faso leaders in an effort to help "calm the situation" that has arisen over the two countries' border dispute, JANA reported.

Iran-Iraq War

A Joint Staff communique reported by IRNA announced that Iranian planes attacked an Iraqi troop concentration north of Al-'Amarah 24 December, inflicting "considerable" casualties, but an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA claimed that antiaircraft fire forced the Iranian planes to flee without carrying out their mission. Meanwhile, General Command communiques carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio reported that Iraqi planes successfully raided Khark Island 24 December and effectively attacked large maritime targets 24 and 25 December.

Algeria

The trial of Abdelawheb Ben Chennouf and those accused with him of state security offenses ended 25 December with Ben Chennouf and 2 other defendants sentenced in absentia to 20 years in prison, 16 sentenced to up to 13 years imprisonment, and 21 acquitted, Algiers radio announced.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 248 *26 December 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Barialay-Led Delegation Departs for India ..... C 1
Barialay, Indian Minister Meet ..... C 1
Indian Parliamentary Delegation on Visit ..... C 1
Government, PDPA Commission Discuss Land Reform ..... C 1
Administration Names New Governors in 3 Provinces *[Karachi]* ..... C 2
FRG's Strauss Receives 'Counterrevolutionary' ..... C 2
2 Pakistani Officers Said Captured by Shinzaris ..... C 3
Criminal Band Blows Up Free Tribe 'Arsenal' ..... C 3
Soviet Forces Reportedly Commit New 'Massacre' *[Riyadh]* ..... C 3
Western Diplomats Cited on Kabul Fuel Shortage *[AFP]* ..... C 3
Mujahidin Operations; Students Leave Country *[Riyadh SPA]* ..... C 3

BANGLADESH

PRC Minister Wu Xueqian Talks With Ershad ..... D 1
Foreign Minister Hosts Dinner ..... D 1
Chowdhury, Wu Xueqian Hold Talks ..... D 1

INDIA

Gandhi Comments on Tamil Killings in Sri Lanka ..... E 1
21-Member Assam Ministry Sworn in 24 December ..... E 1
Minister Promises To Implement Accord ..... E 1
Indefinite Curfew Imposed in Gurdaspur 24 Dec ..... E 1
Inquiry Ordered Into Incidents ..... E 1
Kashmir Official Withdraws Resignation ..... E 1

PAKISTAN

Minister Welcomes Reagan Veto of Textile Bill ..... F 1
Yaqub Khan Briefs Joint Session on Foreign Policy ..... F 1
Further Report ..... F 1
Canada's Clark Meets Junejo, Attends Dinner ..... F 2
Junejo Says Martial Law 'Being Lifted' ..... F 2
Delhi Reports Protest on Jinnah Anniversary ..... F 2

IRAN

Reportage, Comment on Velayati Tripoli Meeting ..... I 1
Velayati Praises Tripoli Meeting *[Tripoli JANA]* ..... I 1
Velayati Briefs Majlis Speaker ..... I 1
Tehran Commentary On Talks ..... I 1
Khamene'i Urges Better Radio Broadcasts ..... I 2
Musavi Meets With Oppressed Foundation Officials ..... I 2
Musavi Discusses Regional Issues With Lebanese ..... I 3
Sha'ban Interviewed Before Departure ..... I 3
Foreign Ministry Condemns South African Action ..... I 3
Industries Minister Receives PRC Ambassador ..... I 3
Cabinet Hears Plan To Diversify Oil Efforts ..... I 3
Oil Minister Comments ..... I 4

Imports to Japan Increase ..... I 4
Official Talks With Sudan on Release of POW's ..... I 4
Clerics Issue Support Statement for Montazeri ..... I 4
More Groups Support Montazeri ..... I 4
Hijack Trial Adjourned Pending Sentence ..... I 5
Religious Rulings No Longer Part of Judiciary ..... I 5
Joint Staff Command Issues Communique 2,329 ..... I 5
Communique No 2330 ..... I 5
Vatican Delegation Arrives for Iraqi POW's Mass ..... I 6
'Old' Price for Flour Retained for Tribes ..... I 6
Afghan Religious Leader Speaks on Anniversary ..... I 6
Further Report ..... I 6
DPRK Reportedly To Aid in Arms Manufacturing *[Voice of the Liberation of Iran]* ..... I 7
Voice of Liberation on Disturbances at Bases ..... I 7

Barialay-Led Delegation Departs for India
LD241733 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Mahmud Barialay, Politburo candidate member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, who is heading a party delegation, left today for New Delhi to take part in the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Indian National Congress. He has been invited by the Indian National Congress (I).

Barialay, Indian Minister Meet
LD251909 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Mahmud Barialay, Politburo candidate member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, who is heading a PDPA Central Committee delegation to India to participate in the 100th founding anniversary of the Indian National Congress (I), at that party's invitation, met Indian External Affairs Minister Beli Ram Bhagat yesterday.

At this meeting, which took place in a friendly and mutually understanding atmosphere, Mahmud Barialay, in comprehensively explaining the outline of the PDPA and DRA Government's foreign policy, spoke in detail about the stand and role of the DRA Government and the Republic of India within the Nonaligned Movement; the Afghan side's stand vis-a-vis its neighbors; the Afghan people's revolutionary gains in various social aspects, especially in recent years; and the difficulties stemming from the aggression and intervention of reaction and imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, in the DRA's internal affairs.

Beli Ram Bhagat, in expressing support for the PDPA and the Afghan people's righteous and just stand, said that the Republic of India and the DRA's traditional, friendly, and fraternal relations enjoy a long history, and increasingly are become broader and expanding in the interest of the two countries' peoples.

During this meeting, both parties, in expressing satisfaction at the two countries' existing fraternal and friendly relations, emphasized the importance of further growth in these relations which guarantee the two countries' peoples' interests and regional and world peace and security.

Hasan Sharq, the DRA ambassador in New Delhi, and the Republic of India's ambassador in Kabul, were present at this meeting.

Indian Parliamentary Delegation on Visit
LD252038 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] The parliamentary delegation from India, headed by Mowlana Sayd Israrolhaq, which recently arrived in Kabul at the invitation of the DRA Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Endowment, today visited the museum of weapons and ammunition, seized from the counterrevolutionary elements by the country's security forces.

According to another report Solayman La'eq, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of nationalities and tribal affairs, yesterday met the Indian parliamentary delegation in his office. At this meeting Solayman La'eq explained to the Indian delegation the socioeconomic and political transformations which are taking place in Afghanistan as a result of the April Revolution.

Abdorrahim Hatef, chairman of the DRA National Fatherland Front, yesterday met the parliamentary delegation from India and spoke with them about subjects of mutual interest. The delegation visited various sections of Watan Nursery yesterday.

Government, PDPA Commission Discuss Land Reform
LD242134 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] The commission of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Council of Ministers, chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, in its session-dated 23 December 1985, assessed the work situation regarding the implementation of land and water reform in the country and measures for its completion.

The formidable importance of land and water reform in implementing the fundamental principles of the national and democratic revolution and as a just solution of the peasantry issue were stressed at this session. It was stated that the progress of land and water reform is regarded as a major factor in attracting the peasant masses to the democratic transformations and in turning the peasants into real allies of the working class, consolidating revolutionary sovereignty, broadening its social pillars, and normalizing the situation in the country.

The commission said that by implementing the party and government measures the fundamental issues of the vital interests of the peasants are being gradually solved. During recent years the party, government, and land reform organs have paid more correct attention to land reform.

During the 8 months of the current year, the operational groups have sorted out the classification of 44,000 hectare or 220,000 jerib of land belonging to 27,000 peasant families, which is 1.6 times more than the past year. More than 8,000 peasant families have received 6.8 hectares of land free of charge,and over 34,000 official land title deeds have been distributed.

The positive work of Badakhshan, Jowzjan, Konduz, Helmand, and Nangarhar Provinces on land and water reforms were mentioned at this commission. Meanwhile, the attention of the party committees of Baghlan, Logar, Kapisa, Zabol, Qandahar, Nimroz, and Samangan provinces was drawn to shortcomings, and it was made clear to them that they should strengthen practical work for the progress of land and water reforms.

The attention of the organs for implementing land and water reforms was drawn to the need to solve the complex issues of land distribution, transportation of chemical fertilizer, petroleum, sowing seeds, mechanical equipment — the basic materials needed by the peasants — as well as broadening the market for selling surplus products, above all providing water for their land.

Emphasis was laid on the importance and need for special treatment, in this respect, to the residential areas of the nationalities and tribes. It was also recommended that the villages be transformed into centers for advancing land and water reforms; and such a task should be promoted with the broad participation of the peasants themselves while strictly observing the principle of volunteering for the task, respecting tradition, national customs, and the religion of Islam.

Abdol ghafar Lakanwal, minister of agriculture and land reform, was tasked with assessing carefully the implementation of measures to remove formalism, and to specify methods for further completion of the land reform by utilizing the experience gathered and in consideration of the class and social structure of the villages.

Instructions were issued to study the utilization of the existing agricultural land, abandoned land, and land not being utilized, and to present necessary proposals in this respect.

The commission approved the proposal of the DRA Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform concerning the further distribution of land to peasant families in consideration of the number of family members, the conclusion of contracts between the government and owners of the orchards, and also the establishment of mechanized farms on the land of owners possessing surplus land, and of private investors.

The commission of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Council of Ministers, on the basis of Babrak Karmal's proposal, instructed the ministries and respective departments to present the draft of provisions for approval concerning the tenancy of land, regulating the activities of large mechanized farms in virgin and uncultivated land on the basis of private and mixed investment, creating measures to increase material and financial assistance to smallholders and middle class peasants and peasant cooperatives so as to increase technical production services and water supplies, and to submit their proposals in this respect to the relevant organs.

The effectiveness of utilization of agricultural land and the activities of the commission for the implementation of land and water reforms in Konduz Province were also considered at this commission. Necessary decisions were taken concerning the issues raised.

The full and candidate members of the Politburo, Soltan Ali Keshtmand, Saleh Mohammad Ziray, Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, Solayman La'eq, and other members of the commission took part in the discussion on the issues raised.

Administration Names New Governors in 3 Provinces

BK210824 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 21 Dec 85

[Text] In Afghanistan, the Karmal administration has announced the appointment of new governors in three provinces — Helmand, Bamian, and Lowgar. No reason has been given for this change.

FRG's Strauss Receives 'Counterrevolutionary'

LD220807 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0423 GMT 22 Dec 85

[Text] Kabul, December 21, BAKHTAR: A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

Franz Josef Strauss, chairman of Christian Social Union in the Federal Republic of Germany, FRG, in his provocative meeting in Munich with Burhannuddin Rabbani, one of the leaders of Afghan counter-revolution assured him of his so-called humanistic assistance in the undeclared war against the DRA.

This is not the first time that the FRG authorities, following in the footsteps [word indistinct] anti-Afghan policy, are actively interfering in the DRA's internal affairs while maintaining diplomatic relations with it.

The West German officials actively and directly involved in this campaign of hatred are Juergen Todenhoeffer, members of the West German bundestag (Parliament), Bundeswehr Colonel Erich Kotny and other persons, who under the mask of journalists and physicians, have taken part in the subversive activities along with the Afghan counterrevolutionaries against the DRA.

The anti-Afghan propaganda campaign in the FRG has attained an extensive dimension with the increased support of the official organs in that country and the Government of the FRG has also expanded its anti-Afghan activities by holding anti-Afghan exhibitions in that country.

While inaugurating an anti-Afghan exhibition, Jurgen Warnke, minister of economic cooperation of the FRG stressed on the necessity of providing assistance to the Afghans to protect the so-called freedom of the Afghan homeland and mischievously lauded the Government of Pakistan for its support to the counter-revolution. He dubiously appealed to the participants of the meeting "not to leave the Afghan alone in the struggle for freedom." Concluding his instigative statement, he characterised the decision of his government to donate 2 million marks to the Afghan counter-revolution as "humane".

Likewise, the notorious Todenhoeffer, Bundestag member has a special place [words indistinct] anti-Afghan propaganda campaign. He pointed out some of the anti-Afghan measures currently being initiated in the FRG and added that 60 Afghan fugitives are undergoing training for the preparation of video-films and photography.

After completing the course, the [words indistinct] sent into the DRA and will be assigned to [word indistinct] intelligence and anti-Afghan materials with the aim of staging them in a distorted

form in the Western mass media against Afghanistan. He called upon the people of his country to [words indistinct] to the Afghan counter-revolution for achieving his sinister designs against the DRA.

The ruling circles in the FRG not being satisfied with their brazen interference in the internal affairs of the DRA in the past such as the illegal export of spies into the [word indistinct] territory and financing of counter-revolution, contrary to the norms of international relations, are now making frantic efforts to intensify their anti-Afghan activities even within the territory of the FRG.

2 Pakistani Officers Said Captured by Shinzaris

LD220729 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0438 GMT 22 Dec 85

[Text] Kabul, December 21, BAKHTAR: Two army officers of Pakistani military regime were captured by the valorous Shinzari people in an armed clash which occured between the Pakistani soldiers and the Afridi and tribesmen in the Khyber region, reports reaching BAKHTAR say. The reports add that the Pakistani regime has issued orders to a number of Afghan counter-revolutionary bands to join with the Pakistani Army for fighting against the free tribes. According to observers, Pakistani troops have demolished a number of houses and shops in Lowargi, a small town in the area, inflicting huge financial losses upon the local people.

Criminal Band Blows Up Free Tribe 'Arsenal'

LD230109 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] Kabul, December 19, BAKHTAR — The arsenal of the so-called "seven alliance" band stationed in Shinwar locality of free tribes has been exploded by the criminal band of Golbuddin, says report reaching BAKHTAR. Due to this explosion, assorted ground to ground, ground to air rockets and other weapons at a worth of over 55 million Pakistani rupees have been destroyed. The so-called leaders of the counter-revolutionary bands who have nested in Pakistan are, on the one hand, engaged in the transaction of war weapons and on the other are fighting against one another due to severe rivalry among them.

Soviet Forces Reportedly Commit New 'Massacre'

GF240625 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] The invading Soviet forces committeed a new massacre, killing 140 women and children in the Paktia Province, in eastern Afghanistan, last week. The AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY, the Afghan mujahidin mouthpiece, reported that Soviet commando forces ambushed a convoy of refugees, comprised of women and children, which was heading for Pakistan. The agency also reported that this week the invading Soviet forces began to ship huge quantities of weapons to Kabul, to prepare for launching a new offensive against the mujahidin this winter.

It is noteworthy that the mujahidin repulsed an attack launched by the joint invading Soviet forces and the lackey Afghan forces in Zabol Province on 9 December. This resulted in the death of 12 members of these troops and the destruction of an armored troop carrier.

Western Diplomats Cited on Kabul Fuel Shortage

HK241248 Hong Kong AFP in English 1223 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 24 (AFP) — Afghan troops surrounded several secondary schools in Kabul earlier this month, as end-of-term diplomas were being handed out, and tried to forcibly conscript the pupils, Western diplomats said here today. The army managed to "persuade" 150 pupils to join up at the Istiqlal college, formerly Kabul's French lycee, they said. But the majority managed to flee and break through the army cordon around the building, even though some soldiers fired in the air to intimidate them.

About 50 percent of Afghan diploma-holding pupils in the past three years have fled the country to avoid conscription, going to neighbouring Pakistan, Europe or the United States, the diplomats said.

Meanwhile, fuel shortages were worsening in Kabul, they said, and an unnamed embassy which asked officials for some was told that there was none in stock. Several convoys transporting fuel from the Soviet Union to the capital have been attacked recently.

Clashes have been reported in the regions of Paghman, west of Kabul, Qandahar, in the south, Paktia, in the south-east and raids by helicopters have been carried out in Logar, south of Kabul.

Mujahidin Operations; Students Leave Country

GF241857 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1540 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Islamabad, 24 Dec (SPA) — The Afghan mujahidin killed 5 and wounded 15 of the invading Soviet and Afghan agent forces in an attack which they launched against those forces in Jaji, in Paktia Province, in eastern Afghanistan on 14 December 1985. Diplomatic sources in Islamabad said today that the big explosion which shook the building of the arts academy at Kabul University on 8 December killed 4 Soviet teachers and wounded 45 people. The sources said that an Afghan officer killed two Soviet soldiers in Kabul on the same day after they harassed two Afghan girls.

The diplomatic sources said that the Afghan agent authorities are launching a large-scale campaign to mobilize students. The sources pointed out that more than 50 percent of all high school graduates have fled (?the country) during the past 3 years.

PRC Minister Wu Xueqian Talks With Ershad

BK241319 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] President Li Xiannian of China will visit Bangladesh next spring at the invitation of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad. This was conveyed to President Ershad by the visiting Chinese foreign minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, when he called on him at Banga Bhavan this afternoon. The exact date of the visit of the Chinese president will be fixed by mutual consultations. During the meeting President Ershad recalled his recent visit to China, which he described as very fruitful. The visit, he pointed out, has resulted in further strengthening relations between the two countries. He said the areas of cooperation between the two countries have been identified. In this connection, he said the friendship bridge being built over the River Buriganga with Chinese assistance will not only contribute to the economic development of Bangladesh, but will remain a lasting monument of friendship between the two countries. The Chinese foreign minister conveyed to President Ershad the best wishes and regards of President Li Xiannian, Premier Zhao Ziyang, and the Chinese leader Chairman Deng Xiaoping. After the meeting, Banga Bhavan spokesman told BSS that the first ever visit by a Chinese foreign minister to Bangladesh is an expression of friendship and goodwill of the government and people of China for the government and the people of Bangladesh. Earlier, the Chinese foreign minister called on the Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, and discussed intensification of cooperation in already identified areas and explored fresh areas. Earlier, on his arrival in Dhaka this morning on a 3-day official visit, the Chinese foreign minister was given a hearty welcome. He was received at the airport by the foreign minister, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury. The Chinese ambassador in Bangladesh, Mr Zheng Jiawying; Bangladesh ambassador to China, Mr Enayetullah Khan; and Foreign Secretary Faruq Ahmed Chowdhury were also present at the airport to receive the distinguished guest. Talking to newsmen at the airport, the Chinese foreign minister said that during his visit, he will review the progress in bilateral relations and cooperation with the Bangladesh foreign minister. The Chinese foreign minister said he will also discuss with his Bangladesh counterpart the international situation, particularly the situation of the South Asian region.

Foreign Minister Hosts Dinner

BK250440 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Formal talks between Bangladesh and China are to be held today. The visiting Chinese foreign minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, will lead the Chinese side in the talks while the Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, will lead the Bangladesh delegation. The official talks will be held during a river cruise out of Dhaka today. The two leaders are expected to review projects and bilateral relations, and discuss the international situation with particular attention to recent developments in South Asia. The foreign minister, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, hosted a dinner last night in honor of Mr Wu. He said deep bonds of friendship between Bangladesh and China have been reinforced and strengthened by the common aspirations, shared outlook, a close similarity of approach to world issues, and common commitment. Mr Chowdhury expressed the satisfaction that relations between the two close neighbors have witnessed a steady growth since the establishment of diplomatic ties 10 years ago. He said the generous assistance extended by China has been of immense benefit to Bangladesh. The bridge on the River Buriganga which is being constructed with Chinese assistance will stand as a durable center of friendship between the two countries. The Bangladesh foreign minister reiterated the country's strict adherence to an independent and nonaligned foreign policy based on the principles of sovereignty, equality of nations, territorial integrity of states and noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, and settlement of disputes through peaceful means. Mr Wu said Bangladesh's policy in international affairs based on these principles has been acclaimed in the international community. He said China would always strongly support Bangladesh in its just struggle to safeguard its sovereignty and independence and to achieve economic emancipation. Mr Wu said the two countries have similar views on major international issues and they would remain trustworthy friends forever. He said the Chinese Government welcomes and supports the establishment of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation sponsored by Bangladesh.

Chowdhury, Wu Xueqian Hold Talks

BK251609 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Bangladesh and China have agreed to expand their bilateral cooperation to the mutual benefit of the two countries. The agreement was reached at the formal talks held in Dhaka today between the foreign minister, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, and his Chinese counterpart, Mr Wu Xueqian. They discussed expansion and intensification of bilateral cooperation in economic, political and other fields. Senior officials of the two countries aided the two foreign ministers in their talks. The two foreign ministers briefed each other about perspective of Bangladesh and China on global and regional issues. After the talks, the Bangladesh foreign minister described the 3-hour talks as very useful, very constructive and very free. Briefing the newsmen, Foreign Secretary Chowdhury said the talks made a beginning of a long-term and constructive dialogue and cooperation between the two countries. There is a great possibility of expanding trade and economic cooperation. The two foreign ministers agreed to more frequent exchanges and meetings at the political and official levels. They agreed that the foreign ministers should meet at least once every year. The Bangladesh foreign minister accepted an invitation from Mr Wu to visit China next summer. The visiting Chinese delegation, led by Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, called on the deputy chief martial law administrator and minister for industries, Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud, in Dhaka today. They exchanged views on increasing joint venture projects, especially in small and cottage industries, textiles, and steel and engineering spareparts. Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud hailed the assistance by the Chinese Government for setting up some of the major industries like (Balas) urea fertilizer factory, Sunderban textiles and a number of other jute and textile mills. The Chinese foreign minister deeply appreciated increase in volume of trade and mutually beneficial joint industries.

Gandhi Comments on Tamil Killings in Sri Lanka

BK241611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] The prime minister has voiced India's concern and disquiet over the almost daily reports of killings of Tamils in Sri Lanka. Replying to queries by PTI, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said in New Delhi today that a military solution to a political problem will never succeed. He said that India has conveyed this firm conviction to the Government of Sri Lanka at a highest level. Mr Gandhi said it is one thing to deal with the terrorists, but it is quite another to victimize large segments of population only because they happen to belong to a particular ethnic group.

When asked whether India will take back the Sri Lankan Indians who are eligible for Indian citizenship, Mr Gandhi said we are prepared to do so in principle and in accordance with our commitments. However, we will not be able to repatriate them to India until the situation in Sri Lanka itself stablizes and Sri Lankan refugees in India can return to their homeland in safety and dignity.

21-Member Assam Ministry Sworn in 24 December

BK240913 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Excerpts] In Assam, a 21-member Asom Gana Parishad [AGP] Ministry headed by Mr Prafulla Kumar Mahanta was sworn in this morning. The governor, Mr Bhishma Narain Singh, administered the oath of office and secrecy to the new ministers at a public ceremony held at the Nehru Stadium in Guwahati. AIR [All India Radio] Guwahati correspondent Kulesh Kumar Deka reports that the ceremony was watched by thousands of people at the jam-packed stadium. Among those present were the newly-elected AGP members of parliament; the Telugu Desam leader, Mr P. Upendra; the president of the Jammu and Kashmir Panthers Party, Mr Bhim singh; and representatives of various opposition parties of Assam and Union Territories of the north-eastern region.

Besides the chief minister, Mr Mahanta, there are 13 cabinet ministers and 7 ministers of state. The portfolios of the ministers will be announced later today.

Addressing a public meeting later, Mr Mahanta said the AGP is a regional party with a national outlook. He said there is no reason for any Indian citizen to be afraid of living in Assam. He also reiterated his government's commitment to implement the Assam accord. The new chief minister uged the people to help maintain peace and amity and also to increase the pace of development.

Minister Promises To Implement Accord

BK251247 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] The Assam chief minister, Mr Prafulla Kumar Mahanta, has said that the priorities before his government will be all-round development of the state and implementation of the Assam accord in full in a specific time frame. Addressing his first news conference at Dispur this morning after assuming office, Mr Mahanta said that criminal cases instituted during the Assam agitation will be reviewed expeditiovusly. He promised to promote peace and amity among different sections of the people living in the state and thereby help in promoting national integration.

Indefinite Curfew Imposed in Gurdaspur 24 Dec

BK250305 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] In Punjab, indefinite curfew has been clamped in Gurdaspur town since yesterday evening following a clash between two groups of people. One person was killed and four injured. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh this morning that a clash followed a dispute between some shopkeeprs. An unruly mob also set on fire a private jeep. The police had to use force to disengage the clashing groups. The spokesman said the situation in the town, though tense, is under control.

Inquiry Ordered Into Incidents

BK260325 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] In Punjab, the district magistrate of Gurdaspur has ordered a magisterial inquiry into the violent incidents in the town in which one person was killed and four injured. Indefinite curfew, clamped in the town since Tuesday evening following this incident, is continuing.

Kashmir Official Withdraws Resignation

BK240923 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir deputy chief minister, Mr D.D. Thakur, who resigned last evening following differences with the chief minister, Mr G.M. Shah, today withdrew his resignation from the state cabinet. Mr Shah and Mr Thakur had a meeting this morning in Jammu. An official spokesman told the AIR [All India Radio] Jammu correspondent that the differences between the two have been sorted out and the chief minister has persuaded Mr Thakur to continue in the cabinet.

Minister Welcomes Reagan Veto of Textile Bill

BK240311 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Pakistan has commended the decision by the U.S. President to veto the draft legislation which called for restricting textile imports from developing countries. Commerce Minister Salim Saifullah Khan said in Islamabad that this measure was a matter of special gratification for Pakistan because 50 percent of its exports are based on cotton and cotton products. Pakistan was greatly concerned at the protectionist measure by the United States as it constituted a main market for Pakistan's textile products. He added that the veto will help in preventing a protectionist trend in the United States. He directed the textile manufacturers and exporters to continue striving for improving the quality of their products. He added that exporters should find new markets for their products.

Yaqub Khan Briefs Joint Session on Foreign Policy

BK241108 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] The Majlis-i-Shoora [Federal Advisory Council] began its debate on the foreign policy at a joint session in Islamabad this morning. Initiating the debate, the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, enunciated the basic principles of the foreign policy.

Reiterating the objectives of the foreign policy, he said it stood for the maintenance of territorial integrity, political independence, and economic well-being of our people in accordance with Islamic aspirations, and strengthen international peace and understanding in the region. [sentence as heard] The directions of the foreign policy, he explained, was to forge the closest possible ties of friendship and cooperation with the Islamic countries, liberation of Al-Quds and support for the rights of Palestinian people to self-determination. Pakistan also stood to maintaining and developing friendly relations with the United States and the special and time-tested relations with China, cordial relations with the Soviet Union and promote beneficial and cooperative relations will all neighbors, particularly with India including a peaceful solution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in the spirit of the Simla Agreement and the UN resolutions. He said Pakistan also stood for consolidating its ties with Western world and Japan, maintaining solidarity with the Third World countries and Nonaligned Group, supporting national liberation movement in Africa including apartheid [as heard] and Namibian self-determination. It is striving for the preservation of peace and tranquillity all over the world through collective efforts of the United Nations.

On Afghanistan, the foreign minister traced the background of the problem leading to the intervention by foreign forces in December 1979 resulting in the influx of 3 million displaced persons into Pakistan and straining our relations with a neighboring super power. It has also led to increasing pressures and frequent violations of the country's western frontiers to which a number of members of the house had referred during the past and current sessions.

Referring to the indirect proximity talks in Geneva for a comprehensive settlement of the Afghanistan problem and the insistence of the Kabul regime on direct format of talks on the fourth and last instrument relating to the withdrawal of foreign forces from that country, the foreign minister made it clear that it would amount to conferring legitimacy on a puppet regime that stood totally rejected by the vast majority of its people and had been installed by a super power.

About the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation which was formally announced at a summit of South Asian leaders in Dhaka last month, he said it would provide a forum for contacts between the regional countries and promote their collective economic progress.

Referring to the prime minister's selection of China for his first official visit abroad, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said China is a pillar for peace and justice in the world. He said Sino-Pakistan friendship has been a major positive factor in our endeavors to maintain territorial integrity and safeguard independence as she has been a steadfast friend and a model neighbor.

Eight members spoke on the foreign policy before the house was adjourned to meet again at 1715 [1215 GMT] this evening. They were: Mr Gauhar Ayub, Sardar Asaf Ali, Mr Hamza, Mr Hasan A. Sheikh, Mr Javed Hashmi, Begum Salma Ahmad, Mrs Gausia Tariq, and Mr Abdul Hamid Jatoi.

Further Report

BK241637 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Excerpts] The Federal Advisory Council began its foreign policy debate at a joint session in Islamabad today. Explaining the basic principles of foreign policy, Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that it is imperative and appropriate to take the elected representatives of the people into confidence and fully apprise them of the actual situation. He said that several serious developments have occurred in our region in the past few years affecting our security and regional atmosphere. Moreover, it has become necessary for the elected representatives to assess foreign policy.

On Afghanistan, the foreign minister said that 3 million displaced persons were forced to seek refuge in Pakistan as a result of foreign armed intervention there in Decemebr 1979. This led to increasing pressures and frequent violations of the country's western frontier. He reaffirmed Pakistan's resolve not to bow to this pressure.

The foreign minister said direct talks with the Karmal regime at present will not change the true situation in Afghanistan. Rather, it will create [word indistinct] and frustration for our people and we will be abandoned by our friends. It will dampen the morale of the Afghan refugees as well. The foreign minister said that we will keep examining all aspects to achieve an early settlement of the Afghanistan issue. He said that there has been some progress in the latest indirect Geneva talks. He clarified, however, that we cannot expect speedy progress since we are negotiating on delicate issues. He rejected allegations that Pakistan is dawdling in

the talks and clarified that the Pakistani people will benefit most, next to the Afghan people, from an early solution to the problem.

He termed as baseless charges that Pakistan's policy on Afghanistan has been subservient to the United States. He said that identity of views between Pakistan and the United States on the Afghanistan situation should never be construed to mean that our policy is subordinate to the United States. The foreign minister said that, on the contrary, it has been proved that the United States respects the basic principles of mutual relations of countries like other [words indistinct] countries of the world supporting the UN policies.

On relations with the Soviet Union, the foreign minister said Pakistan wants to keep its differences with the Soviet Union on Afghanistan apart from its bilateral relations. He reaffirmed that Pakistan attaches great importance to maintaining cordial relations with the neighborly superpower and it will never get involved in confrontation with the Soviet Union. The foreign minister reiterated that Pakistan is firmly committed to the nonaligned principles and it has no connection with any security bloc. He categorically said that Pakistan has neither allowed any foreign power to set up bases on its territory nor will it ever do so.

Referring to Pakistan's relations with India, the foreign minister said that establishment of tension-free and good-neighborly relations between the two countries is very important for the sake of regional peace and security, particularly in view of foreign armed intervention in Afghanistan. He also mentioned the various steps taken by the present government to normalize relations with India, and under which the president visited India on the 17th of this month and held talks with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The foreign minister said that relations between the two countries are expected to turn from the legacy of confrontation to a path of friendship and conciliation as a result of the understanding created during the detailed talks. He referred to the agreement between the two countries not to attack each other's nuclear installations. He said that this is the first step toward reducing tension between the two countries. He also referred to the meeting between ministers and officials of the two countries to be held during the next few weeks and said that all this process will culminate in the Indian prime minister's visit to Pakistan during the first half of next year.

Canada's Clark Meets Junejo, Attends Dinner

BK211230 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Dec 85

[Text] Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark and the delegation accompanying him met Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi yesterday evening. They expressed satisfaction over bilateral relations which have been cordial and friendly since their establishment. The Canadian foreign minister said he is very pleased to visit Pakistan at a time when martial law is being lifted and the democratic process is being consummated. He said in Canada the trend toward joint ventures between Pakistani and Canadian firms in Pakistan is increasing. Evidence of this is that a group of prominent Canadian industrialists has accompanied him and will meet with Pakistani industrialists. He welomed the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. He said he is coming from New Delhi and feels that the recent talks President Mohammad Ziaul Haq had with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi are significant progress in bilateral relations.

Concerning his visit to an Afghan refugee tent village near Peshawar, he said he felt that without visiting this place no person could understand the gravity of this problem. He paid glowing tributes to the government and the people of Pakistan for providing humanitarian assistance and refuge to the displaced people of Afghanistan. The prime minister thanked the Canadian foreign minister for Canada's continued political support on the Afghanistan problem and for its financial assistance to the refugees. The prime minister said Canada played a basic role in Pakistani progress in various fields by providing considerable economic assistance.

Canada built the first dam, the first cement factory, and the first atomic reactor in Pakistan. A Canadian firm was the first to explore off Pakistani shores for oil.

Later, the prime minister hosted a dinner in honor of Joe Clark in Rawalpindi. Besides the Canadian delegation, federal ministers and National Assembly members also attended the dinner.

Junejo Says Martial Law 'Being Lifted'

BK251515 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1505 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo visited the Qaide Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah mausoleum in Karachi thi sevening [on occasion of Qaide Azam's birthday]. He laid a floral wreath at the mausoleum and said prayers. Later, talking to newsmen at the mausoleum, he said he has come to Karachi to pay his respects to Qaide Azam on his 109th birthday. This week of December, which marks Qaide Azam's birthday, is the most important week in our history in the past 8 years. As he had pledged to the nation, martial law is being lifted and a new era of democracy is due to be ushered in.

Delhi Reports Protest on Jinnah Anniversary

BK260319 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] In Pakistan, more than 200 opposition leaders and workers were arrested yesterday at Lahore to prevent them from holding a rally. The police used tear gas and batons to disperse the rally. It marks the birth anniversary of the founder of Pakistan, the late Mohammad Ali Jinnah, and was in protest against the continued martial law. Similar rallies were also held at Rawalpindi and Karachi. The authorities who have promised to end the 8 and 1/2 years martial law by the end of this month had banned staging of rallies in Lahore and Rawalpindi. Pakistan Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo said that the martial law is being lifted. However, he did not announce any firm date.

Reportage, Comment on Velayati Tripoli Meeting
GF240617 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Mr Velayati, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who had gone to Tripoli as the head of a political delegation participating in the tripartite meeting of the foreign ministers of Iran, Syria, and Libya, returned to Tehran last night. Mr Velayati spoke to our correspondent on the results of his trip following his return:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Velayati could you please tell us what the results were of the third joint meeting of the foreign ministers of Iran, Syria, and Libya? What were the salient features of the joint communique signed by the three countries?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. A year has elapsed since the first tripartite meeting of Iran, Syria, and Libya took place. During that time, tangible progress was made in the trilateral relations of the countries. Each time our sessions are more fruitful and significant than the previous ones and the results are more far-reaching. During this session, as planned, each of the member countries discussed issues pertaining to the region in which our respective countries are situated. Each country offered sympathy and effective cooperation to eliminate the problems of the other two.

The highlights of the communique at the end of the sessions pertained to the Palestinian issue and stress the firm determination of the progressive forces in the region for concerted confrontation with Israel and rejection of all kinds of compromise with the despotic regime. Concerning the imposed war of Iraq against Iran, Syria and Libya expressed their definite support for the Islamic Republic's resolve to continue the war until the decline of the regime ruling Iraq.

Syria and Iran expressed their support for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah against the plots and threats against it from North Africa. Libya and Iran declared their support for Syria with respect to threats from the Zionist regime and its supporters.

Similarly, the triad decided to seriously assess the dangerous trends in Africa and other parts of the world, such as the formal recognition of Israel by most countries. In this context, a telegram was sent with the signatures of the three foreign ministers to the ICO and another telegram with two signatures — representing Syria and Libya — to the secretary general of the Arab League calling for effectively stemming the dangerous trend which has recently started. The three countries will carefully examine the issue of recognition of Israel by some countries and will follow up the issue, especially on the African Continent, in detail.

The triad also emphasized that henceforth more serious consideration and support would be given to African countries which desire independence and are threatened by oppressors. We declared our firm support for countries of the sacred lines of the South African front. In this regard, we shall implement every measure possible. [End recording]

Velayati Praises Tripoli Meeting
LD250947 Tripoli JANA in English 0824 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Rabi Athani 12, Dec. 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati praised the outcomes of the recent tripartite summit describing them as very satisfactory.

He said that the recent Tripoli meeting came as a continuation of the 2 previous meetings in all of which Jamahiriyah, Syria and Iran's Islamic Republic took part. The relations among the three sisterly states had witnessed noticeable positive progress since the first meeting and until the Tripoli one.

Dr. Velayati said: "The Islamic Republic of Iran and Syria both confirmed their absolute support for Jamahiriyah in its confrontation of imperialist challenges aimed at the Libyan Arab people."

Velayati Briefs Majlis Speaker
LD251858 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 25 IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati met and conferred with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Wednesday. During the meeting Velayati briefed Hoj. Rafsanjani on the results of the tripartite meeting of Iran, Libya, and Syria, held in Tripoli last week.

Tehran Commentary On Talks
LD241252 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1056 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] We now draw your attention to our first political commentary entitled: The End Of the Tripartite Session Between Iran, Syria and Libya:

The tripartite session of foreign ministers of Iran, Libya and Syria ended yesterday in Tripoli with a joint communique. At the end of the session the three delegations decided to hold their next session in Tehran in Ordibehesht of next year [21 April-21 May 1986]. These sessions, held every 6 months in one of the capital cities of the three countries, are aimed at consolidating strategic ties among Syria, Libya and Iran as well as their coordinated and harmonized struggle against conspiracies hatched by global arrogance.

Despite the unceasing attempts by imperialism to torpedo the existing ties between the three countries, the Tripoli session was held in an atmosphere of understanding and friendship. The convening of another session by ministers of economy and industry of the three countries in Tehran, which is to take place in the near future, is indicative of the closer ties among the three countries.

In the course of the talks, important regional issues were raised and discussed. One of the most important axial points of the joint communique was the reiteration of emphasis by Syria and Libya

on the legality of the legitimate struggle by Islamic Iran against the Saddamite aggressors until the perpetrator of the aggression is eliminated. The communique again identified Iraq as the party that started the unjust war against the Islamic Revolution of Iran. The communique condemns such aggressive acts as attacking towns, oil tankers, deployment of chemical weapons and attempts to expand the war, for all of which the fascist Iraqi regime is held responsible. In this connection the three countries emphasized their support for the struggles launched by the Iraqi nation against the fascist and blood-thirsty Saddam regime.

As two progressive countries, Syria and Libya pointed out that the objective of the war started by Iraq is to obviate the liberating role played by the Islamic Republic. Referring to the grave consequences of such an objective for the political climate of the region, they noted the confining of the role played by the Islamic Revolution of Iran in supporting the essential and central Arab and Muslim issue, being their struggle against the Zionist regime.

Another central issue covered by the joint communique concerned the compromising trend towards the Zionist regime which was condemned. Moreover, they condemned the Egyptian regime and the shameful Camp David accord, and expressed support for the heroic struggle of the Muslim people of that country who are trying to bring that country back to the trenches to fight the Zionist regime. In this connection, recent developments concerning restoration of diplomatic relations between certain African countries and the Zionist regime were reviewed. As a result, the Ivory Coast, Zaire and Liberian regimes were condemned for having taken steps to restore diplomatic relations with the ominous Israeli regime.

The three countries also reviewed the critical situations brought about following the increased threats by the Zionist regime and imperialism against Syria. It should be recalled that these threats emanate from the Zionists' opposition to deployment of new missile equipment by Syria along its common borders with Lebanon. The three countries placed emphasis on the stands adopted by Syria against Zionism and imperialism.

Another part of the communique deals with a review of Libyan Regional issues. In this connection the situation in Chad and imperialists' provocations against that country were reviewed and discussed. Both Iran and Syria expressed their support for Libya's recent measures aimed at defending its territory, airspace and its coastal waters.

The Libyan Government has taken steps to station missiles to defend its airspace. These steps were taken in order to deter any possible attacks by imperialists. Subsequent to these measures, a great deal of propaganda clamour was raised by Western imperialist quarters. In this regard, the joint Communique expresses decisive and all-embracing support for the Libyan Government.

In conclusion, the foreign ministers of the three countries attended press conferences and referred to the outcomes of the session as very fruitful, so much so that our country's foreign minister, Dr Velayati, said: The outcomes of the session were more fruitful and more productive than the previous sessions.

Khamene'i Urges Better Radio Broadcasts

LD241730 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 24, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Tuesday that the Iranian radio network should cover all remote areas to counteract hostile foreign broadcasts and pirate radio stations.

The president said that the foreign audience of the Iranian radio (the Voice of the Islamic Republic) is multitudinous and that the radio has a responsibility to convey the message of the Islamic Revolution to its international audience with a good audio quality.

President Khamene'i made the statement in a meeting with the visiting personnel of the Iranian radio here Tuesday.

The Voice of the Islamic Republic broadcasts in 13 foreign languages daily producing 35 hours of radio programmes.

The president further said that the message of the Islamic Republic is appealing to the masses in the Third World countries and that the broadcast media is the best means for conveying the message of the Islamic Republic to them.

He said science and or social topics could be discussed for a large audience on the radio in a language understandable by both the elite and the laymen, but noted it is the quality of radio programmes that counts in the final analysis.

Musavi Meets With Oppressed Foundation Officials

LD221646 Tehran IRNA in English 0805 GMT 22 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 22, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Saturday called for sound planning within the Mostazafeen (oppressed) Foundation and stressed that in the absence of a proper plan this giant organisation which had no precedent in the world cannot continue to serve objectives of the Islamic Revolution. The prime minister was speaking in a meeting with officials of various organisations of the foundation from throughout the country currently here to take part in a seminar to draft the foundation's budget for the next year.

Referring to the creation of the foundation after the victory of the revolution and confiscation of illegally accumulated properties, Prime Minister Musavi said that after the 1979 revolution about 100,000 managers affiliated to the former regime were dismissed and instead committed experts were installed.

Inevitably such a change entailed shortcomings in the executive affairs of the country, of which Mostazafeen Foundation was no exception, he added.

Referring to the foundation's financial assistance extended to the government last year, the prime minister said that such an establishment should make greater contribution in solving problems of the country.

Musavi Discusses Regional Issues With Lebanese

GF240034 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] The leader of the Islamic Unification Movement of Lebanon, who is currently in Tehran, met Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi last night. During this meeting, Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban spoke about the purity of the Islamic Revolution in Iran. He said: We are grateful to God for our strong ties in the consolidation of this revolution.

Referring to the animosity against the Islamic Revolution and the struggles of the Muslims on an international scale, he said: The entire world is up in arms to extinguish the light of divine effulgence, but it is all-encompassing and will spread everywhere. He thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran's officials for their assistance to Tripoli Muslims during clashes in the city.

Then our country's prime minister said: The foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is based on the interests of all Islamic countries. If we remain indifferent to the crises that the Muslims of the world face, we will feel that we have not fulfilled our Islamic obligations. The prime minister added that the most important issue confronting Muslims is the issue of unity, and that the role of the Islamic clerics is pivotal. The prime minister said: We consider it our duty to remain by the side of our Muslim brothers all over Lebanon.

Sha'ban Interviewed Before Departure

LD241200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, the leader of the Islamic Unification Movemeat of Lebanon, who visited Tehran to meet and hold talks with our country's officials, left Tehran for Lebanon at noon today after a 15-day visit. He was seen off by Sheykholeslam, Foreign Ministry political affairs under secretary.

Before leaving Tehran the leader of the Islamic Unification Movement of Lebanon was interviewed by our correspondent. He said: The Islamic Revolution of Iran is the goal and hope of all the world Muslims. Today, Iran is considered the seat of Islam and the effective factor in creating unity among the Muslims' ranks. Our trip to Iran was to stress the unity of Muslims. In expressing its views, Iran is free of religious and national fanaticism. On our return to Lebanon we shall stress the unity of Muslims. We consider Lebanon the next candidate for an Islamic revolution.

Referring to political moves in Lebanon, he said: Several solutions have been proposed for ending the war in Lebanon; all have failed. We believe that the disturbances in Lebanon can be ended only through the efforts of the Muslims in that country and by relying on God. He added: I hope that the Lebanese Hezbollah and Amal brothers, who are in Iran at present, will return to Lebanon united, realizing that we will be their third ally.

He said: We met Iranian officials and discussed the Islamic issuesof Lebanon. He added: We sympathize with the Palestinian nation. We ask the Islamic Republic of Iran to assist us in helping that aggrieved nation. He referred to the important role played by Muslim forces. He said: We wish the Islamic Republic of Iran to advance further. We hope the Islamic Revolution of Iran will overcome its enemies and will victoriously end the war which has been waged against the Islamic Revolution on behalf of the United States, the USSR and Zionism. We ask God Almighty to guide the Muslim Iraqi nation to the right path.

Foreign Ministry Condemns South African Action

LD231949 Tehran IRNA in English 1853 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 23, IRNA — Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran here Monday, condemned the apartheid South African regime's invasion of Angola and Lesotho and called for an immediate withdrawal of the apartheid usurping forces from the soil of these two countries.

The spokesman of the Foreign ministry reiterated the Islamic Republic's backing for the just struggles of the oppressed African nation against racist South African regime and said that such invasions have been made by the political, financial and military support of the global arrogance such as the U.S. and her allies to the regime in Pretoria. The spokesman urged the people of the globe to take measures to prevent such aid reaching the apartheid South African regime.

Industries Minister Receives PRC Ambassador

LD231914 Tehran IRNA in English 1658 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 23, IRNA — People's Republic of China's outgoing ambassador here, Fan Zuokai, met and conferred with Minister of Industries Gholam Reza Shafe'i Monday, with both sides expressing an interest in expansion of bilateral relations. During the meeting, the ambassador, whose tenure here has ended, said that economic ties between Iran and China have a firm basis. Fan Zuokai also said that China would import Iranian non-oil goods, as well as increase its oil purchase from Iran in the future.

The Iranian minister said that due to China's large population, it could be a suitable market for Iranian non-oil goods.

Cabinet Hears Plan To Diversify Oil Efforts

LD222014 Tehran IRNA in English 1718 GMT 22 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 22, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said Sunday that Iran's construction jihad has finished a project that will diversify the country's ability to export oil.

He said the jihad completed the work in a mere 45 days in comparison to proposals by a renowned international company to do the work in one year.

"It is time that we think about these achievements," said the prime minister, adding that "we ought to pay more attention to the committed forces in the construction jihad".

The jihad was formed after the 1979 Islamic Revolution and is comprised of volunteer forces interested in serving the deprived classes, particularly those in rural areas. With the start of the Iraqi imposed war the jihad started projects in backing the war effort. Last year the jihad was turned into a ministry.

The prime minister made the announcement at the end of a cabinet meeting wh[illegible] the ministers of commerce and Islamic guidance briefed the cabinet on their recent visits to South Yemen and Syria. The cabinet also discussed Iran-U.S. financial disputes at the International Court at The Hague.

Oil Minister Comments

LD231954 Tehran IRNA in English 1847 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 23, IRNA — The Islamic Republic is rapidly diversifying its oil export facilities in different parts of the Persian Gulf to minimize wartime vulnerabiblity, according to Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh.

One such effort for diversification, according to Aqazadeh, is a projected trunkline for linking southern oil fields with a relatively nonvulnerable export port at the Persian Gulf. Another such project is to be completed in 45 days, he says. Trunklines for diversification purposes will be laid both on land and under sea-bed.

Part of a recent diversification scheme involved special road construction which task was successfully tackled by Iranian workers within only 45 days while a foreign contractor had demanded an exhorbitant price and more than one year to complete the work.

The minister says reliance on Iranian work force and local resources has highly improved the various operations of the oil ministry and that the project owes much to the efforts of volunteer workers of the construction jihad.

Imports to Japan Increase

LD231718 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec 23, IRNA — Japan imported 1.76 billion liters of Iranian oil in November, a four-fold increase as compared with the same period last year, according to the latest monthly report of Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

Iran's oil exports to Japan during October also increased making it the second largest oil supplier to Japan, followed by Indonesia with 1.7 billion liters. The United Arab Emirates is reportedly Japan's biggest oil supplier. Saudi Arabia's oil export to Japan in the same month dropped to 1.56 billion liters down by 58.8 percent.

Official Talks With Sudan on Release of POW's

LD231928 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 23, IRNA — The imminent release of Sudanese prisoners of war captured while fighting on the side of Iraqi aggressors, was discussed by Sudanese Minister of Defence 'Uthman 'Abdullah and the head of the Iranian Embassy in Khartoum Sunday. The Sudanese minister expressed satisfaction at the resumption of relations between the two countries after the fall of the former Sudanese ruler Ja'far Numayri in April 1985. He emphasised that his government had a neutral stand with regard to the ongoing Iran-Iraq war and that there were no Sudanese military personnel in Baghdad now.

Numayri, during his reign, encouraged the dispatch of Sudanese nationals to support the Iraqi war effort against the Islamic Republic. Iraq with a 14 million population faces a critical shortage of manpower and employs foreign mercenaries. Recently a high-level Sudanese delegation visited Tehran for talks on the fate of the POW's. The two men also discussed bilateral relations.

Clerics Issue Support Statement for Montazeri

GF231703 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] On behalf of Hojjat ol-Eslam Madani, the imam's representative in the province and the Bushehr Friday imam, Hojjat ol-Eslam Sajjadizadeh, Hoseyni-e Mohri, Najafi, Ashuri, Montazeri, and Salehi, the Friday imams of Kangan, Borazjan, Genaveh, Khormuj, Dayer, and Khark issued a statement.

The statement concerns the election of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri as the future leader of the Islamic Revolution. It was issued through the Office of Friday Imams of Bushehr Province, in the form of a congratulatory telegram to the Central Office of the Friday Imams in Qom. The full text of the telegram is as follows:

Now that another of the major principles of the regime of the Islamic Republic, which is the election of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri — may the Lord bless him — as the future leader of the Islamic Revolution by the Islamic and aware ummah, with the support of the council of experts, has been realized, the world aggressors have been taken by surprise and are disappointed by this decision.

"Today the unbelievers have despaired of your faith." [Koranic verse] Therefore it is necessary for us to convey our greetings at the same time as other Friday imams throughout the country to the great leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Grand Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni — may the Lord bless him with a long life until the resurgence of Mahdi.

More Groups Support Montazeri

GF250605 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, following the selection of his eminence Ayatollah Montazeri by the Council of Experts as the future leader of the Islamic Revolution, the Association of Lebanese Muslim ulema sent a cable congratulating him. The telegram says in part: The Muslim people of Iran have once again attained a fresh victory in the history of the magnificent victories of the Islamic Revolution, by their

worthy selection of your excellency. This perceptive selection is indicative of the unity and solidarity among the various sections of the Hezbollahi Iranian ummah. We consider this auspicious selection as a blessing and we convey our sincerest greetings to his eminence. We pray to God Almighty for the longevity of the imam of the nation and your ever-increasing capability for service to Islam and the Muslims.

According to this report, the Association of the Iraqi Combatant Clergy, the Great Islamic Center and the Mohammadiyah Association of Pakistan also sent separate telegrams to the Imam of the nation and his eminence Ayatollah Montazeri, greeting them on the decision of the Council of Experts' confirming the future leadership of the Islamic Revolution.

Hijack Trial Adjourned Pending Sentence
LD241921 Tehran IRNA in English 1822 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 24, IRNA — The trial of two Yemenis charged with the hijacking of a Saudi plane [word indistinct] adjourned Tuesday following contradictory claims by the two hijackers. Judge Zia Norouzee said the court would issue its ruling in its next session.

In the third session of the court, Sa'id Massudi, 36, said that he hijacked the plane as a mission for the Yemeni Liberation Front, but his accomplice, Muhammad Almas, 22, said he was lured into the act by his accomplices. The two men commandeered a Saudi Tristar plane to Tehran Mehrabad airport on 5 November 1984 but were arrested minutes later.

The lawyers for the two accused supported the claims of their clients, but the prosecutor said there was no political motive and that the hijacking was carried out purely for extorting money. The judge said: "A political hue is being given to the hijacking in an effort to escape the law" and by trying to move the sympathetic feelings of court officials. Iran's law prescribes life imprisonment for convicted hijackers.

Massudi told the court as a Yemeni national he had the right to defend his country against the Saudi interventions. He said: "We are not criminals because we committed no crime against our Muslim countrymen. We hijacked a plane that belonged to the Saudi regime which has ruled that country unjustly".

He claimed the liberation front had given him a mission to blow up the U.S. Embassy in Jeddah but after he failed to accomplish the mission he was told to hijack the Tristar plane.

His accomplice, Almas, claimed that they had no political purpose. In the second day of the court he had said that he was enticed into joining the ring when he was in Paris. Almas' lawyer has asked the court for rewarding Almas for helping Iran's security agents in Mehrabad airport to capture Massudi. He said: "My 22-year-old client is a young man who only wanted to follow his studies but fell into this trap". Almas said he had gone through much anguish while in prison for 14 months. In Monday's session he accused Massudi of hijacking the plane for money.

Religious Rulings No Longer Part of Judiciary
LD222337 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Dec 85

[Text] The Supreme Judicial Council has decided that henceforth court orders issued by religious magistrates of the special civil tribunal operating as a court of first instance, including matters to do with arbitration, will no longer be classed as a judicial ruling. Religious magistrates may also deal with cases in the review stages.

Joint Staff Command Issues Communique 2,329
LD241757 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 24, IRNA — Iran's jet fighters bombarded a concentration center of Iraqi troops north of the Iraqi city of Al-Amara at 10:14 hours (06:44 hours GMT) Tuesday, inflicting considerable casualties and losses on the enemy. The Iranian war planes returned to their bases safely, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Tuesday.

In its communique number 2329, the command says that Iranian artillery and mortar fire on Iraqi positions in the Western fronts on Monday, killed or wounded at least 15 Iraqi soldiers, demolished two tanks, four observation posts, one munitions dump and several artillery emplacements of the Iraqi forces.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, Iraqi forces incurred heavy casualties and losses on Monday as their bases were shelled by Iranian Muslim combatants.

Elsewhere the communique says Iranian combatants opened fire on an Iraqi unit comprising 100 soldiers, as they were setting up obstacles and mine traps and installing barbed wire in Shekamcheh, northwestern fronts Monday, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the Iraqi forces and forcing the remaining to flee.

Iranian artillery fire drove back an Iraqi patrol unit trying to infiltrate Iranian positions in Nahr-e Anbar at 01:00 hours Monday (21:30 hours GMT Sunday) according to the Joint Staff.

The Joint Staff further says that several Iraqi engineering vehicles were set ablaze by Iranian artillery fire on an enemy motorized unit monday.

Iranian surface-to-air fire halted flights of Iraqi helicopters in these fronts Monday, says the communique, adding that Iraqi forces continued shelling the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province over the past 24 hours.

Communique No 2330
LD251646 Tehran IRNA in English 1644 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 25, IRNA — Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the western fronts on Tuesday, killed or wounded at least 30 Iraqi soldiers and demolished seven group and individual bunkers, six observation posts, one machinegun, and one mortar

launcher of the enemy, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Wednesday.

In its communique number 2330, the command says that Iran's Muslim combatants pounded enemy positions in the north-western fronts Tuesday, killing or wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers, destroying several large as well as as small bunkers, bulldozers and other vehicles of the enemy troops and silenced their artillery.

In the southern fronts, Iraqi forces incurred substantial casualties and one Iraqi munitions dump was set ablaze as supply routes of the Iraqi troops, their armoured hardware and command outposts were shelled by Iranian Muslim combatants Tuesday, according to the communique.

The communique further says that artillery fire of Iranian gendarmerie combatants on Iraqi positions near Abadan Tuesday, inflicted heavy casualties and losses on the enemy, halted enemy engineering operations and silenced its artillery. Meanwhile, Iraqi artillery fire on the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province on Tuesday damaged two houses.

Vatican Delegation Arrives for Iraqi POW's Mass

LD231116 Tehran IRNA in English 1045 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 13, IRNA — At the invitation of the Islamic Republic of Iran a three-member Vatican delegation headed by Cardinal Roger Etchegaray arrived here Monday morning to hold Christmas mass for the Iraqi Christian POW's in the Iranian camps. Cardinal Etchegaray is carrying a message from Pope John Paul II for President 'Ali Khamene'i.

The delegation was welcomed at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport by Foreign Ministry officials and also officials from the Vatican Embassy in Tehran.

An official in charge of the Iraqi POW's camps in Tehran told the cardinal that on the basis of documents presented by Iraqi Christian clergy who have fled to Iran, the Iraqi regime has not fallen short of committing any insult against Christian clergy in Iraq and their holy places. He hoped that the Vatican delegation through holding Christmas ceremonies for the Iraqi Christian POW's and talks with them, would inform European people of the humane treatment extended to the Iraqi POW's in Iran. Every Christmas special ceremonies are held for the Christian Iraqi POW's in Iran, by Vatican representatives.

'Old' Price for Flour Retained for Tribes

LD231927 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] The Economic Council has decided that henceforth flour consumed by the country's tribal people will be supplied to them at its previous price despite the rise in the cost incurred.

Afghan Religious Leader Speaks on Anniversary

LD242211 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] On the eve of the anniversary of Afghanistan's military occupation, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hoseyni, one of the responsible officials of the Islamic revolution in Afghanistan, held a press and radio-television conference this morning. Referring to the point that every year, on this occasion, demonstrations are staged in various parts of the world including Iran to honor the determination of the people of Afghanistan and to stress their resolve to continue the struggle until final victory, he commented on the sixth round of the Geneva talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, which took place under UN supervision. He said: No negotiations without the participation of the true representatives of the Muslim nation of Afghanistan, who are not prepared for any talks as long as the Soviet forces remain in their country; and in this case, the only determining factor is armed struggle.

He added: By organizing talks between representatives of Pakistan's government and Karmal's regime, the USSR is trying to attribute the revolution of Afghanistan to foreign countries. But the issue of Afghanistan has nothing to do with the United States, Pakistan, or others and it is up to the nation of Afghanistan alone to determine its own fate.

While denying the existence of any discord among the people of Afghanistan, he emphasized: The people of this country share the same opinion with regard to Soviet and U.S. hegemony and are in agreement on relying upon Islam and the Koran; and those groups which receive assistance from the United States and its accomplices in the region, are separate from the Afghan nation.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hoseyni stressed: The aim of the people of Afghanistan is Islam, and as they have proved during the past 7 years, they are not going to submit to Soviet domination. And after their victory against the Soviet Union, they will never accept the domination of the United States and its agents.

Further Report

LD250932 Tehran IRNA in English 0852 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 25, IRNA — Over one million Afghan Muslims, mainly civilians, have been martyred and six million others have become homeless due to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (25 Dec. 1979), said an Afghan opposition leader here tuesday.

Speaking in a press conference, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hoseyni, the representative of Al-Nasir organisation, said that the only solution for Afghanistan's crisis is unconditional withdrawal of the Soviet forces. The Afghan nation, he stressed, will not participate in any negotiations with the occupiers and the puppet regime of Kabul.

Hoj. Hoseyni said that Soviet Union is testing its chemical and other advanced weapons in Afghanistan by savagely bombing the civilians. He further added that the world media has failed to inform the people of the degree of brutality of Soviet and Karmal forces against Afghan Muslims.

On the apparent shift in the Soviet's policy towards Afghanistan, after the Geneva summit, as well as the recent remarks of Soviet leaders and Karmal on political solution for Afghanistan crisis, Hoseyni said that such moves will not hinder struggles of the Afghan Muslims.

The hojjat ol-eslam emphasised that Afghans themselves will determine their fate through their struggle against the occupying forces.

DPRK Reportedly To Aid in Arms Manufacturing

GF241841 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] A seven-man military delegation from the DPRK, made up of two military experts, three technicians, and two translators, arrived in Tehran last week to talk about the manufacture of light weaponry in Iran. The correspondent for the Voice of the Liberation of Iran says: This delegation has arrived at the invitation of the mullahs' regime and in accordance with an agreement signed last year between the regime's war ministry and the Ministry of Heavy Industries with the communist DPRK. The delegation will train Iranian workers in arms' factories in Saltanatabad, Farahabad, Masjed Soleyman, and Esfahan in the manufacture, repair, and renovation of light and medium-range weapons.

A three-member group from the Iranian ground forces, consisting of two counter-intelligence officers from the Second Bureau of the Joint Staff and an officer, expert in weaponry, will meet with this communist DPRK delegation. The Korean delegation is headed by an officer called (Kim Bang Lee).

Voice of Liberation on Disturbances at Bases

GF231150 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] According to the Voice of the Liberation of Iran correspondent, a violent clash took place between officers who have sold themselves to the mullahs and Air Force sergeants at two Air Force bases — Shahrokhi in Hamadan and Vahdati in Dezful. The clash culminated in the arrest of some of the warring personnel. Some of the mullahs, deputies of the (?Defense) Council, and some quisling officers of the politico-ideological departments of the Armed Forces declared war propaganda classes to be compulsory for military personnel. Sergeants absented themselves from the classes to protest against such highhandedness.

Threatening the technical personnel and sergeants at these bases — Shahrokhi and Vahdati — resulted in the interrogation of their colleagues, but the mullahs posted in the military departments subjected them to reduction in salaries, suspension of promotions, and administrative warnings.